



December

Safe Toys & Gifts Month

Worldwide Food Service Safety Month

National Tie Month

National Impaired Driving Prevention Month

12/7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

12/15 Bill of Rights Day

12/21 Winter Solstice

12/25 Christmas

12/31 New Year's Eve

December Birthdays

12/2 Beatrice Allen

12/4 Sheila Cook

12/6 Stacey Curtis

12/9 Tora Aldridge

12/12 Melissa Stone

12/13 Beverly Monk

12/16 Isaac Perry

12/17 Sabrina Heathcoat

12/18 Rodney Farley

12/22 Patricia White

12/24 Linda Navarro

12/25 Karen Lawson

12/30 Alicia Christopher

12/31 Kent Ballew

12/31 Stacey Schratz

Tis the Season...

Buy Your Own Gift

Last Christmas, grandpa was feeling his age, and found that shopping for Christmas gifts had become too difficult. So he decided to send checks to everyone instead. In each card he wrote, "Buy your own present!" and mailed them early. He enjoyed the usual flurry of family festivities, and it was only after the holiday that he noticed that he had received very few cards in return. Puzzled over this, he went into his study, intending to write a couple of his relatives and ask what had happened. It was then, as he cleared off his cluttered desk that he got his answer. Under a stack of papers, he was horrified to find the gift checks which he had forgotten to enclose with the cards.

The Reward

A lady lost her handbag in the bustle of Christmas shopping. It was found by an honest little boy and returned to her. Looking in her purse, she commented, "Hmmm.... That's funny. When I lost my bag there was a \$20 bill in it. Now there are twenty \$1 bills." The boy quickly replied, "That's right, lady. The last time I found a lady's purse, she didn't have any change for a reward."

This holiday season as we busily try to do any and everything and make it all over the top amazing, take some time to relax, laugh, and enjoy the season! Wishing you and your family a very Happy Holiday Season!



Christmas Holidays off: December 23rd and 26th

New Year's Day off: January 2nd

DHS Central Offices will be closed. We appreciate the HDC staff for working these holidays!

DDS participates in the DHS Halloween Children's Event



DDS theme was Alice in Wonderland. Our director, Melissa Stone was Alice, Forrest Steele was the Mad Hatter. Regina Davenport was the Queen of Hearts. Portland Gilbert was one of her Royal Court Cards. James Hayden was the March Hare. Tammy Benbrook was the Cheshire Cat. Dale Woodall was the White Rabbit. Merinesa Morris was the White Queen. Yvette Swift was the Mouse. Our mural was hand drawn by Raymond Donaldson and Terrlyn Scoggins. Waiver Services staff painted the mural (Portland Gilbert, Keesha Lucas, Rhonda Stewart, Sheena Burton), Avis Lane, Shelby Maldonado, Buddy Rhodes, and Martha Smith coordinated our decorations and treats for the children.

All DHS divisions participated with themed tables. Many of the local child care centers and DHS employee children and grandchildren were in attendance. A fun time was had by all. The event was such a hit that it will now be held annually!



DDS Employee, Raymond Donaldson, Waiver Application Unit Specialist of 2+ years receives blessing of a new home from Habitat for Humanity!



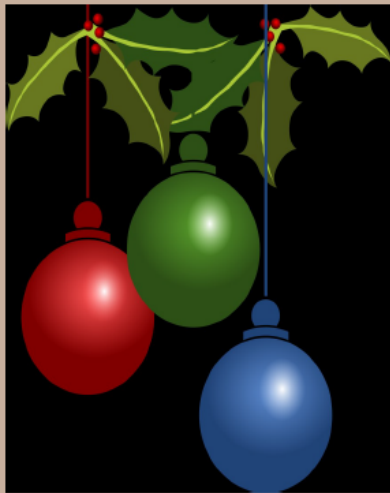
In Raymond's words...

Being nominated to receive a Habitat for Humanity Home has been a blessing that words cannot describe. Receiving the home means that I have a chance to start developing my life and becoming my own man. It is an honor to have been selected and I will not tarnish this blessing God has given me.

DDS Holiday

MIX &

MINGLE



December 9th
11:00 - 1:00

Director's
Conference
Room

We're looking forward to food, fun, and fellowship! If you'd like to participate in the gift exchange, email yvette.swift@dhs.arkansas.gov for more details **by noon, Monday, December 5th.**



Comments, Questions, Suggestions

What would you like to see featured? Please send your ideas to yvette.swift@dhs.arkansas.gov